

## PCT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

## NOTIFICATION OF ELECTION

(PCT Rule 61.2)

From the INTERNATIONAL BUREAU

To:

Commissioner  
 US Department of Commerce  
 United States Patent and Trademark  
 Office, PCT  
 2011 South Clark Place Room  
 CP2/5C24  
 Arlington, VA 22202  
 ETATS-UNIS D'AMERIQUE

in its capacity as elected Office

<b>Date of mailing (day/month/year)</b> 10 November 2000 (10.11.00)	
<b>International application No.</b> PCT/JP00/01540	<b>Applicant's or agent's file reference</b> 00/06247
<b>International filing date (day/month/year)</b> 14 March 2000 (14.03.00)	<b>Priority date (day/month/year)</b> 26 March 1999 (26.03.99)
<b>Applicant</b> KONDO, Makoto	

1. The designated Office is hereby notified of its election made:

☒ in the demand filed with the International Preliminary Examining Authority on:

18 October 2000 (18.10.00)

☐ in a notice effecting later election filed with the International Bureau on:2. The election ☒ was☐ was not

made before the expiration of 19 months from the priority date or, where Rule 32 applies, within the time limit under Rule 32.2(b).

The International Bureau of WIPO 34, chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland  Facsimile No.: (41-22) 740.14.35	Authorized officer  Antonia Muller  Telephone No.: (41-22) 338.83.38
---	--

## PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

## PCT

## INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

97-1  
Translation  
09/937481

RECEIVED  
MAR 21 2000  
TC 2800 PCT/PEA ROOM

Applicant's or agent's file reference 00/06247	<b>FOR FURTHER ACTION</b> See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/JP00/01540	International filing date (day/month/year) 14 March 2000 (14.03.00)	Priority date (day/month/year) 26 March 1999 (26.03.99)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC H01L 21/027, G03F 7/20, 1/08		
Applicant NIKON CORPORATION		

<p>1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.</p> <p>2. This REPORT consists of a total of <u>3</u> sheets, including this cover sheet.</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).</p> <p>These annexes consist of a total of _____ sheets.</p>	
<p>3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:</p> <p>I <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Basis of the report</p> <p>II <input type="checkbox"/> Priority</p> <p>III <input type="checkbox"/> Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability</p> <p>IV <input type="checkbox"/> Lack of unity of invention</p> <p>V <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement</p> <p>VI <input type="checkbox"/> Certain documents cited</p> <p>VII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain defects in the international application</p> <p>VIII <input type="checkbox"/> Certain observations on the international application</p>	

Date of submission of the demand 18 October 2000 (18.10.00)	Date of completion of this report 26 June 2001 (26.06.2001)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

# INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP00/01540

## I. Basis of the report

### 1. With regard to the **elements** of the international application:\*

- ☒ the international application as originally filed
- ☐ the description:  
 pages \_\_\_\_\_, as originally filed  
 pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the demand  
 pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the claims:  
 pages \_\_\_\_\_, as originally filed  
 pages \_\_\_\_\_, as amended (together with any statement under Article 19  
 pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the demand  
 pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the drawings:  
 pages \_\_\_\_\_, as originally filed  
 pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the demand  
 pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the sequence listing part of the description:  
 pages \_\_\_\_\_, as originally filed  
 pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the demand  
 pages \_\_\_\_\_, filed with the letter of \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. With regard to the **language**, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language \_\_\_\_\_ which is:

- ☐ the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)).
- ☐ the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)).
- ☐ the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

### 3. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

- ☐ contained in the international application in written form.
- ☐ filed together with the international application in computer readable form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form.
- ☐ furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form.
- ☐ The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished.
- ☐ The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.

### 4. ☐ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:

- ☐ the description, pages \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the claims, Nos. \_\_\_\_\_
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/fig \_\_\_\_\_

### 5. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).\*\*

\* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

\*\* Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

# INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP00/01540

## V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

### 1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-27	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims	1-27	YES
	Claims		NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-27	YES
	Claims		NO

### 2. Citations and explanations

#### Claims 1-27

In an exposure method in which a plurality of patterns is stitched together and exposed on a substrate in order to expose on the substrate a pattern that is larger than the aforesaid individual patterns, when mutually overlapping and exposing four patterns in a region where four individual patterns are adjacent, determining the exposure amount of each pattern's corners based on a characteristic that is the product of a first characteristic gradually decreasing along a first direction at the outside and a second characteristic gradually decreasing along a second direction at the outside is not described in any of the documents cited in the ISR and appears to be non-obvious to a person skilled in the art.

## P C T

## 国際調査報告

(法 8 条、法施行規則第40、41条)  
〔P C T 1 8 条、P C T 規則43、44〕

出願人又は代理人 の書類記号 00/06247	今後の手続きについては、国際調査報告の送付通知様式(P C T / I S A / 2 2 0) 及び下記5を参照すること。	
国際出願番号 P C T / J P 0 0 / 0 1 5 4 0	国際出願日 (日.月.年) 14.03.00	優先日 (日.月.年) 26.03.99
出願人 (氏名又は名称) 株式会社ニコン		

国際調査機関が作成したこの国際調査報告を法施行規則第41条 (P C T 1 8 条) の規定に従い出願人に送付する。  
この写しは国際事務局にも送付される。

この国際調査報告は、全部で 3 ページである。

☐ この調査報告に引用された先行技術文献の写しも添付されている。

## 1. 国際調査報告の基礎

a. 言語は、下記に示す場合を除くほか、この国際出願がされたものに基づき国際調査を行った。

☐ この国際調査機関に提出された国際出願の翻訳文に基づき国際調査を行った。

b. この国際出願は、ヌクレオチド又はアミノ酸配列を含んでおり、次の配列表に基づき国際調査を行った。

☐ この国際出願に含まれる書面による配列表

☐ この国際出願と共に提出されたフレキシブルディスクによる配列表

☐ 出願後に、この国際調査機関に提出された書面による配列表

☐ 出願後に、この国際調査機関に提出されたフレキシブルディスクによる配列表

☐ 出願後に提出した書面による配列表が出願時における国際出願の開示の範囲を超える事項を含まない旨の陳述書の提出があった。

☐ 書面による配列表に記載した配列とフレキシブルディスクによる配列表に記載した配列が同一である旨の陳述書の提出があった。

2. ☐ 請求の範囲の一部の調査ができない (第 I 欄参照)。

3. ☐ 発明の単一性が欠如している (第 II 欄参照)。

4. 発明の名称は ☒ 出願人が提出したものを承認する。

☐ 次に示すように国際調査機関が作成した。

5. 要約は ☒ 出願人が提出したものを承認する。

☐ 第 III 欄に示されているように、法施行規則第47条 (P C T 規則38.2(b)) の規定により国際調査機関が作成した。出願人は、この国際調査報告の発送の日から 1 カ月以内にこの国際調査機関に意見を提出することができる。

6. 要約書とともに公表される図は、

第 5 図とする。 ☒ 出願人が示したとおりである。

☐ なし

☐ 出願人は図を示さなかった。

☐ 本図は発明の特徴を一層よく表している。

A. 発明の属する分野の分類 (国際特許分類 (IPC))		
Int. Cl <sup>7</sup> H01L21/027, G03F7/20, G03F1/08		
B. 調査を行った分野		
調査を行った最小限資料 (国際特許分類 (IPC))		
Int. Cl <sup>7</sup> H01L21/027, G03F7/20, G03F1/08		
最小限資料以外の資料で調査を行った分野に含まれるもの		
日本国実用新案公報 1926-1996年		
日本国公開実用新案公報 1971-2000年		
日本国登録実用新案公報 1994-2000年		
日本国実用新案登録公報 1996-2000年		
国際調査で使用した電子データベース (データベースの名称、調査に使用した用語)		
WPI/L		
C. 関連すると認められる文献		
引用文献の カテゴリー*	引用文献名 及び一部の箇所が関連するときは、その関連する箇所の表示	関連する 請求の範囲の番号
A	JP, 10-256140, A (キャノン株式会社) 25. 9月. 1998 (25. 09. 98) [0013]-[0020] (ファミリーなし)	1-27
A	JP, 7-235466, A (株式会社ニコン) 5. 9月. 1995 (05. 09. 95) [0018]-[0023] (ファミリーなし)	1-27
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C欄の続きにも文献が列挙されている。 <input type="checkbox"/> パテントファミリーに関する別紙を参照。		
* 引用文献のカテゴリー 「A」 特に関連のある文献ではなく、一般的技術水準を示すもの 「E」 国際出願日前の出願または特許であるが、国際出願日以後に公表されたもの 「L」 優先権主張に疑義を提起する文献又は他の文献の発行日若しくは他の特別な理由を確立するために引用する文献 (理由を付す) 「O」 口頭による開示、使用、展示等に言及する文献 「P」 国際出願日前で、かつ優先権の主張の基礎となる出願日の後に公表された文献 「T」 国際出願日又は優先日後に公表された文献であって出願と矛盾するものではなく、発明の原理又は理論の理解のために引用するもの 「X」 特に関連のある文献であって、当該文献のみで発明の新規性又は進歩性がないと考えられるもの 「Y」 特に関連のある文献であって、当該文献と他の1以上の文献との、当業者にとって自明である組合せによって進歩性がないと考えられるもの 「&」 同一パテントファミリー文献		
国際調査を完了した日	06. 06. 00	国際調査報告の発送日
国際調査機関の名称及びあて先		特許庁審査官 (権限のある職員)
日本国特許庁 (ISA/JP)		岩本 勉
郵便番号100-8915		2M 9355
東京都千代田区霞が関三丁目4番3号		電話番号 03-3581-1101 内線 3274

C (続き) . 関連すると認められる文献		
引用文献の カテゴリー*	引用文献名・及び一部の箇所が関連するときは、その関連する箇所の表示	関連する 請求の範囲の番号
A	US, 5 4 8 6 8 9 6, A (Nikon Corpration) 2 3. 1 月. 1 9 9 6 (2 3. 0 1. 9 6) Page. 1	1-27
A	& J P, 6 - 3 4 9 7 1 1, A 第1頁	1-27
A	J P, 7 - 1 3 5 1 6 6, A (株式会社ニコン) 2 3. 5 月. 1 9 9 5 (2 3. 0 5. 9 5) [0008] - [0010] (ファミリーなし)	1-27

## PCT REQUEST

00/06247

Original (for SUBMISSION) - printed on 25.09.2001 02:00:10 PM

<b>0</b>	<b>For receiving Office use only</b>	
<b>0-1</b>	International Application No.	
<b>0-2</b>	International Filing Date	
<b>0-3</b>	Name of receiving Office and "PCT International Application"	
<b>0-4</b>	<b>Form - PCT/RO/101 PCT Request</b>	
<b>0-4-1</b>	Prepared using	<b>PCT-EASY Version 2.91 (updated 01.01.2001)</b>
<b>0-5</b>	<b>Petition</b> The undersigned requests that the present international application be processed according to the Patent Cooperation Treaty	
<b>0-6</b>	<b>Receiving Office (specified by the applicant)</b>	<b>Japanese Patent Office (RO/JP)</b>
<b>0-7</b>	<b>Applicant's or agent's file reference</b>	<b>00/06247</b>
<b>I</b>	<b>Title of invention</b>	<b>EXPOSURE METHOD AND APPARATUS</b>
<b>II</b>	<b>Applicant</b>	
<b>II-1</b>	This person is:	<b>applicant only</b>
<b>II-2</b>	Applicant for	<b>all designated States except US</b>
<b>II-4</b>	Name	<b>NIKON CORPORATION</b>
<b>II-5</b>	Address:	<b>Fuji Bldg., 2-3, Marunouchi 3-chome Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8331 Japan</b>
<b>II-6</b>	State of nationality	<b>JP</b>
<b>II-7</b>	State of residence	<b>JP</b>
<b>II-8</b>	Telephone No.	<b>03-3773-7011</b>
<b>II-9</b>	Facsimile No.	<b>03-3777-6659</b>
<b>III-1</b>	<b>Applicant and/or inventor</b>	
<b>III-1-1</b>	This person is:	<b>applicant and inventor</b>
<b>III-1-2</b>	Applicant for	<b>US only</b>
<b>III-1-4</b>	Name (LAST, First)	<b>KONDO, Makoto</b>
<b>III-1-5</b>	Address:	<b>c/o Nikon Corporation, Intellectual Property Department Fuji Bldg., 2-3, Marunouchi 3-chome Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8331 Japan</b>
<b>III-1-6</b>	State of nationality	<b>JP</b>
<b>III-1-7</b>	State of residence	<b>JP</b>



## PCT REQUEST

00/06247

Original (for SUBMISSION) - printed on 25.09.2001 02:00:10 PM

IV-1	Agent or communication representative; r address for correspondence The person identified below is hereby/has been appointed to act on behalf of the applicant(s) before the competent International Authorities as:	agent
IV-1-1	Name (LAST, First)	OMORI, Satoshi
IV-1-2	Address:	Omori Patent Office 2075-2-501, Noborito, Tama-ku Kawasaki-shi, Kanagawa 214-0014 Japan
IV-1-3	Telephone No.	044-900-8346
IV-1-4	Facsimile No.	044-911-0012
IV-1-5	e-mail	o-pat@bekkoame.ne.jp
V	Designation of States	
V-1	Regional Patent (other kinds of protection or treatment, if any, are specified between parentheses after the designation(s) concerned)	AP: GH GM KE LS MW SD SL SZ TZ UG ZW and any other State which is a Contracting State of the Harare Protocol and of the PCT (except MZ) EA: AM AZ BY KG KZ MD RU TJ TM and any other State which is a Contracting State of the Eurasian Patent Convention and of the PCT EP: AT BE CH&LI CY DE DK ES FI FR GB GR IE IT LU MC NL PT SE and any other State which is a Contracting State of the European Patent Convention and of the PCT (except TR) OA: BF BJ CF CG CI CM GA GN GW ML MR NE SN TD TG and any other State which is a member State of OAPI and a Contracting State of the PCT
V-2	National Patent (other kinds of protection or treatment, if any, are specified between parentheses after the designation(s) concerned)	AE AL AM AT AU AZ BA BB BG BR BY CA CH&LI CN CR CU CZ DE DK DM EE ES FI GB GD GE GH GM HR HU ID IL IN IS JP KE KG KP KR KZ LC LK LR LS LT LU LV MA MD MG MK MN MW MX NO NZ PL PT RO RU SD SE SG SI SK SL TJ TM TR TT TZ UA UG US UZ VN YU ZA ZW

## PCT REQUEST

00/06247

Original (for SUBMISSION) - printed on 25.09.2001 02:00:10 PM

V-5	<b>Precautionary Designation Statement</b> In addition to the designations made under items V-1, V-2 and V-3, the applicant also makes under Rule 4.9(b) all designations which would be permitted under the PCT except any designation(s) of the State(s) indicated under item V-6 below. The applicant declares that those additional designations are subject to confirmation and that any designation which is not confirmed before the expiration of 15 months from the priority date is to be regarded as withdrawn by the applicant at the expiration of that time limit.		
V-6	<b>Exclusion(s) from precautionary designations</b>	NONE	
VI-1	<b>Priority claim of earlier national application</b>		
VI-1-1	Filing date	26 March 1999 (26.03.1999)	
VI-1-2	Number	11-83178	
VI-1-3	Country	JP	
VI-2	<b>Priority document request</b> The receiving Office is requested to prepare and transmit to the International Bureau a certified copy of the earlier application(s) identified above as item(s):	VI-1	
VII-1	<b>International Searching Authority Chosen</b>	Japanese Patent Office (JPO) (ISA/JP)	
VIII	<b>Check list</b>	number of sheets	electronic file(s) attached
VIII-1	Request	4	-
VIII-2	Description	34	-
VIII-3	Claims	7	-
VIII-4	Abstract	1	-
VIII-5	Drawings	6	-
VIII-7	TOTAL	52	
	<b>Accompanying items</b>	paper document(s) attached	electronic file(s) attached
VIII-8	Fee calculation sheet	✓	-
VIII-16	PCT-EASY diskette	-	diskette
VIII-18	<b>Figure of the drawings which should accompany the abstract</b>	5	
VIII-19	<b>Language of filing of the international application</b>	Japanese	
IX	<b>Signature of applicant or agent</b>		
IX-1	Name (LAST, First)		
IX-2	Capacity		

## FOR RECEIVING OFFICE USE ONLY

10-1	<b>Date of actual receipt of the purported international application</b>	
------	--	--

**PCT REQUEST**

00/06247

Original (for SUBMISSION) - printed on 25.09.2001 02:00:10 PM

10-2	Drawings:	
10-2-1	Received	
10-2-2	Not received	
10-3	Corrected date of actual receipt due to later but timely received papers or drawings completing the purported international application	
10-4	Date of timely receipt of the required corrections under PCT Article 11(2)	
10-5	International Searching Authority	ISA/JP
10-6	Transmittal of search copy delayed until search fee is paid	

**FOR INTERNATIONAL BUREAU USE ONLY**

11-1	Date of receipt of the record copy by the International Bureau	
------	--	--